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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/659,262	09/11/2003	Takahiro Moro	00862.001703.2	3540

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EXAMINER	
POON, KING Y	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2625	

DATE MAILED: 06/08/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/659,262	MORO ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	King Y. Poon	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *21 March 2006*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *59,61-66,68-72 and 74-86* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *59,61-66,68-72 and 74-86* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *11 September 2003* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 08/768,579.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *1/27/2006*.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 59, 61-66, 68-72, 74-77, 81-86 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hower et al (US 5,467,434) in view of Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary (MPCD) and Hube et al (US 5,229,814) incorporated by reference, column 7, lines 50-55, Hower.

Regarding claims 59, 66: Hower teaches an information processing apparatus (15-1, column 3, lines 50-51) connected with a printing device (12-1, column 3, lines 50-55), wherein the information processing apparatus issues a control command (column 4, lines 1-10) based upon data made by an application program (column 6, lines 55-60) to the printing device, said apparatus comprising: a display unit (column 4, lines 15-25) adapted to display a setting window including a set value (column 6, lines 40-45) of a first setting item (e.g., paper size, 216X356, fig. 11) for printing and a set value of a second setting item (e.g., paper weight 75, fig. 11) for printing; a determination unit (examiner, column 4, lines 49-65, and the program of 7B, Hube) adapted to, when the set value of the first setting item displayed in the setting window is changed into a second value from a first value (216X279, fig. 11 to 216X356, and the second setting is

set/change from previous setting (inherent properties of Hower) at white 100) determine whether or not a change instruction by a user is required (changed by user or automatically, column 7, lines 40-55) if desirable to change a third value of the second setting item for printing displayed in the setting window (column 7, lines 40-55 change by user or machine, also see 324 or 330 of fig. 7B of Hube, note), in association with the change into the second value and a changing unit (the program and memory that accept the programmed print setting entered by the user going through the examiner) adapted to, when determined by said determination unit that the change instruction by the user is not required, change the set value of the second setting item into a fourth value from a third value without a change instruction made by the user (accepted what is being entered by the user, similar to S3116, fig. 31, the present application), and adapted to when determined by said determination unit that the change instruction by the user is required (324, fig. 7B, Hube, column 7, lines 35-45, Hower) change the set value of the second setting item into the fourth value from the third value in response to a change instruction made by the user; and an issuance unit (the program that converts the print setting into print commands/job tickets, column 5, lines 5-6), adapted to issue a control command based upon the set values to the printing device.

Although Hower does not specifically mention an application program; Hower does teaches the combination examiner functioned as an application program interface for detecting user programmed print attributes/command (column 6, lines 48-60).

MPCD shown that "application program interface" is a set of routines used by an APPLICATION PROGRAM to direct the performance of procedures by the computer's

operating system, and application program is a program designed to assist the performance of a specific task. Therefore, it would have been obvious that Hower has an application program to allowed user to program the print job selection of column 6,lines 59-60, uses that the application program interface to allowed users to detect the selected print job selections.

Note: Although Hower teaches the system notifies the user of the incorrect print job setting entering and have the user made the changes or the system accept what is being entered by the user and have the system making the changes; Hower does not teach how such a method is being implemented.

Hube, fig. 7B, teaches a system: determines whether or not it is desirable to have the user to make changes, displaces a message to the user when it is desirable to have the user making the decision, and the system would not inform the user if it not desirable to have the user of making the decision such as the system would accept/store what is entered by the user and make the changes by the system.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Hower to include: determines whether or not it is desirable to have the user to make changes, displaces a message to the user when it is desirable to have the user making the decision, and the system would not inform the user if it not desirable to have the user of making the decision such as the system would accept/store what is entered by the user and make the changes by the system; to provide an additional options for the user and at the same time provides automation if the system could correct the situation without user's input.

Regarding claims 61, 68: Hower teaches wherein the changing unit displays an operation window (fig. 5, shows that a user can select or change the selection by selecting a print setting; e,g, a user would select 8.5X11 at one time and 9X11 at another time) for the change instruction made by the user and changes (S31) the second setting item display in the setting window into the fourth value from the third value if determined that the user makes the change instruction to change the value of the second setting.

Regarding claims 62, 69: Hower teaches wherein the changing unit does not change the third value of the second setting item for printing display in the setting window if not determined that the user makes the change instruction (the system would not accept a print setting if the print setting is not selected and submitted by the user and accepted by the examiner, column 6, lines 50-65; the change unit of Hower is being interpreted as the program and memory that accept the programmed print setting entered by the user going through the examiner) to change the value of the second setting item.

Regarding claims 63: Hower teaches the information processing apparatus comprising a host computer (column 3, lines 50-52).

Regarding claims 64, 70: Hower teaches wherein the first setting item and the second setting item include a setting of the printing device (column 3, lines 35-40).

Regarding claims 65, 71: Hashimoto teaches wherein the first setting item includes a setting for a medium (page, fig. 11) and the second setting item includes a

setting for a printing method (using a particular color, or weight, or type of paper for printing, fig. 11).

Regarding claims 72, 74, 75, 76, 77: Claim 72, 74, 75, 76, 77 are claiming a computer readable medium for storing a program code for the system and method discussed in claims 59, 61, 62, 64, 65. Hower teaches the invention of claims 59, 64, 65, 66, 70, 71 are written in a program (column 9, lines 9-22). Inherently, all program codes are stored in a computer readable memory.

Regarding claims 82-84: Hower teaches an information processing apparatus (15-1, column 3, lines 50-51) connected with a printing device (12-1, column 3, lines 50-55), wherein the information processing apparatus issues a control command (column 4, lines 1-10) based upon data made by an application program (column 6, lines 55-60) to the printing device, said apparatus comprising: a display unit (column 4, lines 15-25) adapted to display a setting window including a set value (column 6, lines 40-45) of a first setting item (e.g., paper size, 216X356, fig. 11) for printing and a set value of a second setting item (e.g., paper weight 75, fig. 11) for printing; a changing unit (the program and memory that accept the programmed print setting entered by the user going through the examiner) adapted to, when the set value of the first setting item displayed in the setting window is changed into a second value from a first value (216X279, fig. 11 to 216X356, and the second setting is set/change from previous setting (inherent properties of Hower), not change a third value of the second setting item, displayed in the setting window for printing (the setting of paper weight has not been changed by the user), if determined to not be required to change the third value of

the second setting item in association with the changed second value of the first setting item (examiner accepts the user's selection, column 7, lines 25-35, with no error), adapted to, when the set value of the first setting item displayed in the setting window is changed into the second value from the first value, change the set value of the second setting item displayed in the setting window into a fourth value from the third value without a change instruction made by a user if determined to be desirable (note) to change the third value of the second setting item in association with the second value of the first setting item (automatically, column 7, lines 40-55), for printing, and adapted to, when the set value of the first setting item displayed in the setting window is changed into the second value from the first value, change the set value of the second setting item displayed in the setting window into the fourth value from the third value in response to a change instruction made by a user if determined to be desirable to change the third value of the second setting item in accordance with the second value of the first setting item, for printing (column 7, lines 40-50); and an issuance unit (the program that converts the print setting into print commands/job tickets, column 5, lines 5-6), adapted to issue a control command based upon the set values to the printing device.

Although Hower does not specifically mention an application program; Hower does teaches the combination examiner functioned as an application program interface for detecting user programmed print attributes/command (column 6, lines 48-60).

MPCD shown that "application program interface" is a set of routines used by an APPLICATION PROGRAM to direct the performance of procedures by the computer's

operating system, and application program is a program designed to assist the performance of a specific task. Therefore, it would have been obvious that Hower has an application program to allowed user to program the print job selection of column 6,lines 59-60, uses that the application program interface to allowed users to detect the selected print job selections.

Note: Although Hower teaches the system notifies the user of the incorrect print job setting entering and have the user made the changes or the system accept what is being entered by the user and have the system making the changes; Hower does not teach how such a method is being implemented.

Hube, fig. 7B, teaches a system: determines whether or not it is desirable to have the user to make changes, displaces a message to the user when it is desirable to have the user making the decision, and the system would not inform the user if it not desirable to have the user of making the decision such as the system would accept/store what is entered by the user and make the changes by the system.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Hower to include: determines whether or not it is desirable to have the user to make changes, displaces a message to the user when it is desirable to have the user making the decision, and the system would not inform the user if it not desirable to have the user of making the decision such as the system would accept/store what is entered by the user and make the changes by the system; to provide an additional options for the user and at the same time provides automation if the system could correct the situation without user's input.

Regarding claims 85-86: Claims 85-86 are claiming a computer readable medium for storing a program code for the system and method discussed in claims 83, 84. Hower teaches the invention of claims 83, 84 are written in a program (column 9, lines 9-22). Inherently, all program codes are stored in a computer readable memory.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed on 3/21/2006 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. Please see detailed office action.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to King Y. Poon whose telephone number is 571-272-7440. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles can be reached on 571-272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

June 1, 2006

KING Y. POON
PRIMARY EXAMINER